



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 27, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 18 totaled an estimated 15.1 billion ton-miles, 19.5 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 38 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 590.3 billion ton-miles, 11.6 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 18 totaled 360,440 cars, 20.3 percent below 1981, but 15.5 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 25.1 percent in the East, 14.2 percent in the South, and 20.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down. All of the 21 groups increased from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 11 totaled 34,023 cars, up 14.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 56,720 trailers and/or containers, 7.4 percent higher than last year. Both weeks included the Labor Day holiday.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 37 weeks of the year was 1,337,006 cars, 9.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,349,980 trailers and/or containers, up 6.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/18/82:

	Loadings in Week ended September 18, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	22,408	D	4,746	17.5	I	2,436	12.2
Other farm products	2,806	D	1,136	28.8	I	260	10.2
Metallic ores	12,095	D	26,093	68.3	I	505	4.4
Coal	112,906	D	21,274	15.9	I	11,476	11.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,151	D	2,781	21.5	I	811	8.7
Nonmetallic minerals	9,729	D	4,572	32.0	I	2,408	32.9
Grain mill products	12,261	D	2,693	18.0	I	1,850	17.8
Food and kindred products	13,947	D	1,371	9.0	I	2,047	17.2
Primary forest products	14,695	D	3,635	19.8	I	2,409	19.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,087	D	814	11.8	I	1,434	30.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,731	D	3,210	16.9	I	1,768	12.7
Chemicals and allied products	21,800	D	2,837	11.5	I	2,590	13.5
Petroleum products	4,718	D	530	10.1	I	589	14.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,058	D	2,495	18.4	I	1,449	15.1
Coke	4,275	D	2,399	35.9	I	218	5.4
Metals and products	7,372	D	7,496	50.4	I	1,153	18.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,780	I	365	2.5	I	2,976	25.2
Waste and scrap materials	7,697	D	4,418	36.5	I	1,493	24.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,253	D	1,240	13.1	I	1,471	21.7
All other carloads	47,435	I	1,797	3.9	I	8,858	23.0
LCL traffic	236	D	8	3.3	I	98	71.0
Total Cars Loaded	360,440	D	91,586	20.3	I	48,299	15.5

Corresponding week of 1981 452,026

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (38 weeks)	13,835,935	15,901,305	D 13.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
37 Weeks cumulative	575.2	649.3	D 11.4
Week ended September 18	15.1	18.7	D 19.5
38 Weeks cumulative	590.3	668.0	D 11.6

NOTE TO EDITORS: While this issue of Trends reports on carloadings during the week preceding the locomotive engineers' strike, its delay is strike-related. The information is compiled from data normally reported to us by railroad employees who, last week, were honoring BLE picket lines.